

# Newscaster

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club  
The Manitoba Repeater Society  
The Winnipeg Seniors Citizen's Radio Club

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Newsletter Editor  
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June 1994

## Fox Hunting

by VE4WTS

## Elections & Year End Wrapup

Date: June 13, 1994

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

### Other Important Dates:

WARC: Marathon - June 19

Field Day - June 25,26

WSC: June 21 - General Meeting

MRS:

Other: July 11 International Ham Fest - Peace Gardens

July 20 ARES Meeting

July 30 - Aug 1 - Camp 807 Kenora OT

Aug 27 Lake of the Woods Ham Fest Roseau MN

Warc: Executive for 1993/94

President: Dave Panting - VE4EF

Vice-Pres: Barret Filbert - VE4ABA

Secretary: Dick Maguire - VE4HK

Treasurer: Gary Smith - VE4YH

Past Pres: Judy Norton - VE4JBN

Membership/Newscaster: Kay Quinn - VE4YF

Program Chairman: Rob Kaufman - VE4GV

Flea Market: Pat Giesbrecht - VE4PLG

Members at large: Scott Marshall - VE4WSM

### Notes from your Editor: by Derek, VE4HAY

It's been a great year so far, and I have enjoyed producing the newsletter for the last ten months. I want to thank those of you who have provided me with articles, especially Tom, VE4AKI for his series of articles on QRP. Last month at the meeting I said that I was out of articles, and asked for your help in filling my file drawer. While thanks to the great response I am STILL OUT of articles. Come on guys & gals, let's get some thoughts to paper ( or diskette) and fill my file drawer. You HF operators, why not write an article on why the new NO-coders should take the time to learn code, what's so great about HF anyway!! VHF is always there, don't have to wait for proper conditions. Give us some encouragement to upgrade. How about the contest operators? What makes contesting so much fun? How about an article on contests, and maybe we can get some of the HF operators who have never contested into that portion of the hobby. Packeteer's please explain yourselves. Field Day, what is and why do we do this every year? Or even better yet, how does everyone feel about the fact that there exists the NO-code class of licence! ( this should be a hot topic) ATV, what is it and what is needed to get into this area? Shall I continue the list..... I think everyone gets my idea now.

There is lots to write about, and everyone has their own opinion about this hobby, as to how it should evolve. This newsletter is one way to show us how you can help to educate the others in the groups.

Elections for WARC are this month, please think about putting something back into the group for everything you have received from it. Have you learned anything from the meetings? (answer is a big YES) Then put something back, offer to run for a position on the executive. WARC being the largest group in VE4 land does have a great deal of influence with the powers that be. And I just happen to know who the next regional director will be for the VE4 region of RAC. There will be a lot of changes in our hobby in the next few years and

this will be your chance to get your say into the direction you would like it to go. Think about that the next time the bands are dead and you are bored.

### **Words from the President of WARC: by Dave, VE4EF**

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Well, here we are again, sitting in the shack hunched over the keyboard writing the last message for the Newscaster before we take our annual WARC summer hiatus. It must be June because I just came in from outside where I had to tie myself down so that the mosquitoes wouldn't carry me away.

As this will be the last message that I write as president of WARC I would like to say that these past two years have been interesting and rewarding. Thank you to all the members of the executive for your dedication and hard work. I have enjoyed working with you all.

At the June meeting we will be electing a new slate of officers for next year. If you are interested in serving on the executive for the upcoming year please contact me at 257-8525. Please be advised that the rumour about us bolting the doors to the meeting room during elections to keep people IN is completely unfounded. I hope to see you all at the meeting.

### **Winnipeg Senior Citizen's Radio Club. by Martin, VE4AKA President.**

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The second course in Computer Basics, presented by Harsha, VE4SAI has now been completed with another six members a lot wiser in the mysteries than they were before. This has been a tremendous contribution by Harsha and much appreciated. If you missed it, don't despair, you will have another chance later this year or early next Spring. Talking of training, we will once again be conducting classes for the Basic Amateur Radio Licence Examination starting early in September. Concurrently, there will be Code classes for the additional levels of Operator privilege. If you know of any who would be interested please have them contact the Club at 233 3122 so that the necessary study materials can be acquired and ready for the starting date. Still on the same subject, apologies to Bert Andrews for the error in his name in the last issue. Sorry Bert !! June Club events include the Yard Sale which will take place in the parking lot West of the Club premises on the 4th., the Quarterly General Meeting on the 21st. at 0930 am, Breakfast at the Norlander on THURSDAY 9th., at 0900

am, (Fridays turned out to be impossible for Norlander). We still have not heard about the Manitoba Marathon.

For those of you who may have noticed the work going on at the rear of the Club, this is for improved grounding of our antennas and the Hose Tower. It should be completed soon, and we are indebted to Gary Smith, VE4YH, EB Schumann, VE4ZI, Roy Coldwell, VE4ROY, Bill Davis, VE4WU, and John Mitchell, VE4CCW for particular effort in this regard.

We send our good wishes to Keith, VE4BC, who suffered a recent health problem and is in Victoria Hospital. Keith seems to be making good progress and we wish him a speedy recovery.

### **Manitoba Repeater Society by Tim, VE4THR**

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As the newly elected/appointed president of the Manitoba Repeater Society (I think I was in the washroom at the time!), I would like to take this opportunity to introduce your new executive and outline a couple of the issues the executive hope to address this year.

Your executive and their respective position:

VE4THR Tim President  
VE4EN Roy Memberships/Vice-president  
VE4HK Dick Secretary  
VE4AX Albert Treasure  
VE4HAY Derek Past-president  
VE4TEG Tim Technical committee chairman  
VE4STW Bill Technical committee  
VE4ACX Yuri Technical committee  
VE4MJM Mike Technical committee  
VE4KE Marv Technical committee  
Inter-club liaison  
VE4ML Vic Member at large

Two of the concerns voiced at the AGM are being given immediate attention with the hope of having the membership ratifying our proposals at the fall meeting. Changes to the constitution/by-laws controlling the organization are being looked at. A copy of the present constitution is available to all (packet users) on the VE4KV BBS. If you are not active on packet, hopefully you can contact a fellow Ham who is and obtain a copy. Although this may prove to be inconvenient for some, we are trying to discourage the mailing of copies in order to keep the costs of printing and stamps to a minimum. Copies will be available at subsequent WARC meetings. Any suggestions with respect to amendments/changes to the by-laws can be forwarded to any member of your executive, again preferably via Ham radio (packet). The second issue of concern is that of a structured budget. Your executive is working on a budget which would reflect how the club's monies are spent and a process in

which monies can be put aside for future equipment purchases, new projects etc. Again, please feel free to let your executive know your thoughts and concerns. The BBS provided by Doug VE4KV, is a tremendous tool and service for all Hams to use, plus an excellent way to communicate.

As a final note, any written correspondence addressed to the organization should be addressed in the following manner.

Manitoba Repeater Society  
C/O Winnipeg Seniors Citizen's Radio Club  
598 St. Mary's Road  
Wpg. Manitoba  
R2M 3L5

### **MARATHON NEWS** **by Dave, VE4EF**

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Over 50 WARC members have volunteered to help at this year's Manitoba Marathon which will be held on June 19, Father's Day. There will be a short organizational meeting for all the volunteers on Monday, June 13 immediately following the WARC meeting. If you cannot attend please contact me (257-8525) so that we can make other arrangements to provide you with your information packet and your Marathon t-shirt.

### **RAC News** **By Derek, VE4HAY**

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Dave Panting, VE4EF has been appointed Assistant Regional Director for the remainder of the term of the existing directors. Elections will take place in the fall of 1994 for new directors. Dave is taking over from Ed Henderson VE4YU who has held this post since the formation of RAC last year. If you have any questions or suggestions concerning RAC please contact Dave at 452-8244 during business hours or 257-8525 at home.

### **MINUTES FOR W.A.R.C. - MAY 9 1994**

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Meeting began 7:41pm chaired by Barrett VE4ABA each person present introduced him or herself. Approximately 75 in attendance.

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as printed in Newscaster  
moved VE4AJR, seconded VE4SE  
CARRIED

#### Treasurer's Report:

VE4YH reported that WARC realized a profit of \$244.40 at the spring Flea Market. The Club had a total of \$3259.91 in the bank at the end of April.

VE4ABA announced that WARC needs new executive members. Elections are coming up at the June meeting.

#### Flea Market:

VE4PLG reported on our very successful spring Flea Market. The Club will have a problem with the fall Flea Market, since ice will be going in at the West Kildonan Arena the first week of September. This is too early for our fall flea market. VE4PLG requested suggestions on a different new location for the fall flea market, or any other suggestions on a different site.

#### Jamboree on the Air:

VE4VQ stated that 1994 was a big year for Jamboree on the Air. He asked for lots of help from WARC hams.

#### ARES:

VE4MBQ advised that he had volunteered to be Emergency Co-ordinator for Winnipeg, with ARES. He requested that all interested hams fill out an ARES registration form that he had. VE4MBQ also announced that ARES will hold a meeting May 25, at Sturgeon Creek High School.

#### Ham Classes:

VE4OV noted that he had 12 people in the latest class. He also stated that 100 per cent of women taking the course passed.

#### Newscaster:

VE4HAY solicited articles for the Newscaster, since his cupboard is bare. He requested something to print on upcoming HF contests.

\*\*\*HELP HELP\*\*\*\*

VE4ABA advised that anyone looking for DXCC could take their QSL cards to the RAC Convention July 29-31. An official of ARRL will be on hand to scrutinize the cards.

#### Other Business :

VE4JBN moved that WARC have only one Flea Market per year.

moved VE4JBN, seconded VE4JR

Discussion  
motion DEFEATED

VE4HK presented Worked All Winnipeg Award Certificates to the following VE4's, MHZ, OKP, SYG, MAB, DI, MBQ, PLG, and GF.

business meeting adjourned 0815 VE4MTX

Mr. Vic Neudorf made a presentation on the upcoming air show at St. Andrews Airport. WARC was asked to provide communications for parking lots etc, during the event. The club stands to receive a healthy donation, if the show is a success. Quite a few hams volunteered on the spot to assist.

Meeting adjourned 0915

**St. Andrews Air Show July 30 and 31, 1994**  
**by Dick, VE4HK**

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WARC was asked to provide radio communications for the upcoming airshow at St. Andrews Airport, Saturday, July 30, and Sunday July 31. We will need to be on site from 7 am until 7 pm both days.

If you wish to volunteer for this very exciting event, be at the June WARC meeting. If you volunteered at the May meeting, be at the June meeting too, so you can fill out a volunteer sheet.

The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club stands to receive a very healthy donation to our treasury, if the airshow is a financial success.

Please do your part, by volunteering for a very exciting weekend.

**RECIPIENTS OF WORKED ALL WINNIPEG AWARD SINCE MAY 1993**  
**by Dick, VE4HK**

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Certificate	Name	Call Sign
308	Robert Crandle	VE6RWC
309	Rod Huckabay	KA5EX
310	Ray Lelievre	VE3RGL
311	Allin Cooper	VE3TRI
313	Cliff Walker	VE7KX
314	Robert Giden	N7KCG
315	Cy Webster	VE3SIY
316	John Matthews	VE6COD
317	Bruce McKay	VE7SKB
318	Werner Barth	DL2SUB
319	Alexander Parkinson	VE4APN
320	Franz Nachbar	DF2IS
321	Gerry Kravec	KA2ZZM
322	Paula Ehn	VE4MHZ
323	Otto Pestyk	VE4OKP
324	Dan Michaels	VE4SYG
325	Mark Blumm	VE4MAB

326	Diane Best	VE4DI
327	Jeff Dovyak	VE4MBQ
328	Pat Giesbrecht	VE4PLG
329	Gord Finch	VE4GF

There is a lot of interest "out there" in the Worked All Winnipeg Award. If you are on HF, talk up our award. We depend on you to help publicize our award, and our city.

**PacketMac Modem, Savant 1.0.1 for AX.25 and TCP/IP operation on the Macintosh.**  
**by Alexander, VE4APN**

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A few weeks ago, after having my interest perked by a demo version included with the PacketMac Modem project I was attempting to put together, I dashed off an order to CM Technologies Inc., near Des Moines, Iowa for the full version of Savant 1.0.1. Savant is a packet radio communications program especially developed for the Macintosh for use with the PacketMac Modem and TNCs with KISS mode.

With in less than ten days I had the goodies installed in the HD. I think this is the closest any one has come to a true Macintosh interface. The user can scroll, Edit with Undo, Cut, Copy, and Paste. One can Save and Print all or part of any window. Windows can be resized or split. Listed below are some of its features:

- Multiple simultaneous and salvable connections, each with a separate window.
- Each window shows connection status by icon or field, e.g., packets outstanding, sent, retries, and round trip time.
- simultaneous transmission of packets in every window, send when you are ready.
- off line, on screen, preparation of new messages.
- Monitor window shows all packet traffic when enabled. (\* to speed up operations disable monitor function \*)
- Stations Heard window displays up to the last 64 stations heard, with continuous updating of list.
- Allows node to act as a fully functional digipeater including the assignment of an alias.
- Operates with any TNC implementing KISS mode.

- Automatically turns KISS ON at start up, and turns KISS OFF when quitting Savant.

I initially installed Savant along with NET/Mac TCP/IP AX.25 for operation with my MFJ 1270B/TNC 2 packet radio with excellent results. It really works! Best of all I can operate in packet mode in a real Macintosh environment, with the minimum use of arcane UNIX or DOS line commands.

If you have a Mac Plus or newer and system 6.0.4 or later plus 512K or more of spare memory you might just want to give the PacketMac Modem and Savant a whirl. It is a great program for finding out when the system is busy and exactly who is on line at any given time.

I had a lot of difficulty figuring out the PTT wiring for HT/PMM cable going from my Kenwood TH26AT to the circuit board of the PacketMac Modem but help was not far away. To the following I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation of their direct help, interest, and dedication to the Amateur Radio hobby:

Ron VE4QP, Michael VE4MJM, Ian VE4MUD, Ken VE4WA et al.

For more information interested parties can send me a message at  
VE4APN @ VE4KV.#WPG.MB.CAN.NA (note syntax).

*references:*

*Francis, Dexter KD6CMT (October,1992). "Packet on the Mac. . .", 73 Amateur Radio Today, pp.8-14, p.85.*

*Horzapa, Stan WAILOU (MAY,1993). "Packet Perspective - Savvy Mac Software", QST, p.83*

P.S.

In my haste to extol the virtues of doing packet on the Macintosh, I forgot to sing praises for the individuals who really put things together:

Michael VE4MJM - offered the first clue there was something decidedly different about the Kenwood way of doing things. Ian VE4MUD - brought the project to the brink of success by making up the cable for the radio to modem connection. Ken VE4WA - offered a second set of clues, advising the presence of a 1700 Hz tone and clear reception of packets proved all apparently working well, except the PTT, in the Mac modem circuitry. RON VE4QP - did all the critical assembly and final system diagnosis (RTFM) PTT and cable modification. BINGO 'Poor Man's Packet' on the Macintosh is a reality, right here in River City.

## **UMARS J-Pole Seminar** **by Paula Ehn, VE4MHZ**

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UMARS will be holding a J-Pole Building Seminar at the end of September 1994.

This seminar will show you how to build a copper J-Pole antenna and teach you why the design is so popular and how it works. Witold Kinsner will be teaching the seminar at the University of Manitoba. The fee for the seminar will be \$15.00. The final details will be included in the September issue of the Newscaster. So stay tuned.

Get ready for a great summer of mobiling fun without missing your skeds!! Check out these specials from **AERIAL COMMUNICATIONS** --Your Manitoba Kenwood Dealer.

ts 450sat-- \$1670.00. ts 5os-- \$1325.00  
tm 241a-- \$450.00 th 22at-- \$360.00

**call 1- 746-8452 anytime!!**

## **Hint's & Kinks** **by Ralph, VE4RY**

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Next time you have to replace the tip on a Weller type soldering gun, (you can use heavy wire or splurge on the real thing, hi) install the new tip upside down. This allows the light to align perfectly with the tip and gives much better illumination. Once you install these tips upside-down, you'll never again put them in the 'right' way.

## **ARES is back in Winnipeg** **by Jeff, VE4MBQ**

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The Winnipeg ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) Emergency Plan was presented and discussed at our May meeting. I would like to thank the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club for covering the cost of room rental. There are currently 25 registered members in the Winnipeg Ares - **MORE ARE NEEDED!** If you are interested in joining Winnipeg ARES please see Jeff, VE4MBQ at the June WARC meeting.



Our next meeting will be Wednesday July 20th, 1994 at 1900 hrs. Location is the St, John Ambulance Headquarters, 535 Doreen Street (across from Polo park). We hope to cover personal emergency preparedness, radio equipment preparedness (ARES BOX), and documentation you should have (ARES BINDER), should a communications emergency occur. One of the items strongly recommended for the ARES BINDER is a Sherlock Streetguide, a map book of Winnipeg. The Sherlock Streetguide retail for \$10.00, but I will have a limited quantity for sale to any members at the June Warc meeting for \$8.00 (cash only). Winnipeg ARES members and prospective members are reminded to provide me with a passport type photograph at the June WARC meeting.

The Winnipeg ARES equipment poll has been established with contributions from Mike, VE4TCH of Comtelco Electronics & Gary ,VE4SO of Aerial Communcations.

### **New Call Signs by Rick, VE4OV**

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We welcome the following new hams to our hobby:

Brain Bailie	VE4???	Tracey Phillips	VE4???
Ed Bezpalko	VE4EDB	Elaine Redekop	VE4REP
Mark Czoch	VE4SHO	Bill Shipley	VE4BLY
Jeff Dovyak	VE4MBQ	Jarrold Stevens	VE4JSS
Al Eros	VE4ZB	Ilija Zirdum	VE4???
Hardy Fietz	VE4AQR	Eddie Ramdihin	VE4LAB
Trudy Fry	VE4TTF	Gregory Kreoker	VE4YT
John Gosselin	VE4DGI	Keri Kazor	VE4KER
Dragutin Hegel	VE4DCR	Doug Tanner	VE4DJT
Max Hegel	VE4XQS	Liz Wilkins	VE4LIS
Carol Lumsden	VE4???	Cliff Weis-Bundy	VE4OU
Jim McKinley	VE4???	Rob Bourbonnier	VE4RNB
Greg Humphries	VE4HUM	Doug Baird	VE4XZ
Harold Ott	VE4HLO	Bill Bowman	VE4O?
John Masson	VE4JTM	Peter Charles	VE4PDC
Don Optha	VE4DLA	John Wawrykow	VE4UJ
Eric Krievany	VE4IET		

### **News Flash by Derek, VE4HAY**

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On Thursday June 2, 1994, at 1915hrs a Ares Mobilization Alert was called by the EC for Winnipeg, Jeff, VE4MBQ. The alert was repeated at 1930 hrs. And at 1945hrs a net control station was established by VE4HAY. In total 12 members of Winnipeg ARES checked in and were prepared. There were no breaks from outside parties. only a couple of kerchunks (hopefully from people who did not know that this was

an Alert.) As it turned out this was the first on many tests & drills that will happen in order for ARES members to be trained an prepared. VE4MBQ stated that this was a very good turn out for the first practice Alert (more than 1/3 of the members checked in.) We have learnt some things from this test, and I'm sure we will learn more as time continues.

For those who are not members of ARES and wish to learn more please contact Jeff VE4MBQ in Winnipeg, or Rod, VE4TM for outside Winnipeg.

Should you ever be on frequency when an Alert is call, please clear the frequency immediately and monitor. Please do not break in. If the EC needs more people he will call for people who are monitoring in a specific area for help. Remember you just may be saving a life by just listening.

### **RAC news bulletin 15-94 packet edition Issued at RAC administrative office**

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#### Item 01. Amateurs and Antenna Structures

At a recent Canadian Amateur Radio Advisory Board (CARAB) meeting, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) was informed that Industry Canada (IC) will develop a package of documents explaining the policy and procedures implemented by the government with respect to the erection of antennas and antenna structures, which can be distributed to the public. It is expected that the package will be available when the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) is proclaimed in the fall of 1994. Also included in the package is an article prepared by RAC suggesting guidelines for the erection of antenna structures.

#### Item 02. Protection of Frequency Allocation 220-222 MHz.

The public comment phase of the 30-960 mhz review has concluded and the comments are now part of the public record. IC expects that any decision concerning the potential re-allocation of the 220-222 mhz band will be announced by the fall of 1994. Interested parties are encouraged to review the public comments that were received. RAC has registered its objection to this proposed re-allocation. IC met with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to work out a proposed sharing arrangement that is independent of whatever may be the final allocation of this band. IC is working with the FCC on a mutually acceptable sharing arrangement along the international border corridor. RAC advised and assisted IC in the work associated with the proposed sharing arrangement.

Item 04. New Mobile DF Equipment Quick and Accurate

Canadian radio frequency inspectors are finding their new oar directional finding mobile systems quick and accurate in pinpointing radio interference sources. According to an Industry Canada newsletter, 34 systems were purchased for district offices across the country. In Ottawa recently, a department inspector responded to a report of harmful interference. Using the new equipment, the offending signal was traced to a shopping mall. A low power transmitter was located after just one minute of transmission time.

Item 08. Help Available for Improving Your Club Bulletin

The Amateur Radio News Service (arns) is an organization of amateur radio newsletter editors and publicists. They produce the arns bulletin to help newsletter editors better promote amateur radio by improving their club publications. AMS is open to anyone sharing the organization's goals. AMS bulletins are full of news, ideas and suggestions on improving your club bulletin. For more information, contact Pam Myers N8IAK, 510 West Harrison, Alliance, OH 44601.

Item 14. QSL Bureaus

The rule changes for the outgoing qsl bureau have caused some controversy, even though they are similar to the practice and procedure used by outgoing bureaus in other countries. RAC members should remember that the bureaus are not self supporting. Cost to RAC to maintain both the incoming and the outgoing bureaus is some \$8,500 a year and is likely to increase given postal rate fluctuations and the large number of amateurs who are joining our ranks. It is quite common in other countries for qsl managers to be charged a "user fee" to offset the large number of cards which are sent through the bureau. Radio Amateurs of Canada recognizes that the new bureau rules have generated some discussion and as such are holding the new procedures in abeyance until they can be discussed at the next RAC board meeting in July. Cards for the bureaus should still be sorted in the correct manner, but the rules with respect to qsl managers and the destruction of the cards are in abeyance until they can be reviewed by the board. Those RAC members who have comments on the proposed rules should forward them to their respective directors or to Tim Ellam, VE6SH at 307 Christie Knoll Point s.w., Calgary, Alberta, T3H 2V2 or via packet at ve6sh@ve6yyc or on internet at tim.ellam@logical.cuc.ab.ca

Item 16. D-Day Special Events Announcement

The American association of D-Day Utah Beach Radio Amateurs and the French Manche amateur radio society will be operating two special event stations June

4 to June 11, 1994 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the landing of the allied forces in Normandy France on June 6, 1944. Station TM6JUN will operate from Utah Beach (landing point of the allied forces) June 4 to June 11. Check 3.544, 7.030, 14.044, 21.044 and 28.044 mhz on cw. Planned phone frequencies are 3.775, 7.070, 14.244, 21.344, 28.444 mhz. Vhf frequency 144.244 mhz (qrz on satellite too). QSL information: f6kfw via f-buro or radio club f6kfw, p.o. box 234, f-50102, Cherbourg, France. Station f6ref will operate on sunday, June 26, 1994 from 8:00 to 24:00 from Servigny Castle in Yvetot-Bocage. qsl information same as above.

**Some general rules for operating on a repeater . . . .**

**By Bill VE4BJ / VE3WDX**

*Extracted from the Pintree Intertie Manual- The Lake of the Woods Amateur Radio Society.*

1. If you are a new Radio Amateur or using a different repeater for the first time, it is best to monitor for a short while to determine the pattern used. Most repeater protocol is very similar but in some cases a repeater may be established for a particular purpose such as a DX club, satellite, etc. In addition, some repeaters require a tone for access purposes.
2. Although it varies from repeater to repeater, it is usual to announce yourself, if you wish to make a contact, i.e.. "This is VE--- on frequency" or "VE--- monitoring".
3. Once you have established a contact, it is necessary in Canada to identify yourself at the start of a QSO (conversation), at the end and at least every 30 minutes. In practice, it usually happens more often, which is preferable.
4. Always allow a break in your transmission to allow other Amateurs to announce themselves. This is especially true for emergencies. Most repeaters have a courtesy beep for this purpose. The Palomar units, which we have, provide a single beep or a beep-bop depending upon the status of the linking system. Therefore, wait for the beep or beep-bop and then commence your transmission.
5. Most repeaters have a timer, that will turn the transmitter off after about three minutes. This is designed to keep each transmission short and allow a station with an emergency to access the repeater. So, if your transmission is too long you will be cut off after about three minutes, but not to worry, the repeater will restore itself after you stop transmitting.

6. When you are transmitting, you must remember that you are probably being monitored by not only a number of other Amateurs but also by non-Amateurs with scanners and other types of monitors.

7. Keep the output power on your transmitter to a minimum level consistent with good communications. This will help eliminate interference to distant repeaters or other stations.

8. Sometimes, your favourite repeater is busy but you wish to QSO with someone else. In that case make a quick arrangement with your partner and QSY (change frequency) to another repeater or a simplex frequency. There are a number of simplex frequencies with the common one being 146.52 Mhz. To break into a conversation, wait until there is a lull in the exchange and announce your presence by giving your call sign quickly and only once after a station stops talking but before the courtesy beep. Please do not demand a "BREAK".

9. It is not polite to break into a QSO unless you have something to add. Think of a QSO as a person to person conversation. Please do not interrupt unless it is important.

10. During commuter rush hours, there are some Amateurs who cannot use their equipment at other times for various reasons, so allow them some time to operate.

11. It is considered good practice to not transmit subject matter concerning Religion, Politics and certainly no profanity, personal or business dealings.

12. Some repeaters are equipped with a "phone patch". This is a device which connects a repeater to a community telephone system by an access code which varies from repeater to repeater. The access codes for connection and disconnection are shown on the attached repeater data sheets. Please do not release the codes or any other codes "over the air" as it could precipitate a lot of problems. Should someone on frequency wish to make a phone-patch but for whatever reason does not have the codes, offer to m

Make the connection for them but you are pretty well responsible for what is said. In that vein, para 11, above does apply. Do not use a "phone-patch" to circumvent long distance toll charges, this is definitely not permitted excepting under declared emergencies.

13. On occasions you will hear someone on the repeater asking for assistance, directions or whatever. Please take a minute to reply to the station. Our policy is to assist wherever possible in keeping with our mandate.

You might also identify points of interest, etc.. all to the common good.

14. We do have emergency conditions from time to time on one or more repeaters. Under those circumstances, pay close attention to the control operator and follow the instructions, which will be announced quite frequently. There are also special exercises which take place and the same rules apply.

15. Remember -- Our repeater installations took a lot of time and energy on the part of a few individuals notwithstanding a lot of money. Also to acknowledge is the valuable cooperation received from a number of outside agencies that have made the system possible. Everyone will be happy to see you use the repeater to its full advantage on as many occasions as possible. Support your local Repeater Group.